

Patent
09/905,568

REMARKS

Claims 1-44 and 46-49 are pending in the application. Claim 45 has been canceled and Claims 1, 24, 38, 42-44, 46 and 49 have been amended. Claims 1, 4, 7, 24, 39, 42, 46, 47, 48 and 49 are independent.

Claims 4-23, 39-41, 47 and 48 were indicated in the November 4, 2003 Action to be allowable. Applicants thank the Examiner for this indication.

Claims 1-3, 24-38, 42-46 and 49 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, paragraph 4 of the Action indicates that the limitation "generating a table, comprising....creates a vague claim, the examiner is unsure as to what the claimed method comprises". Claims 24, 42, 46 and 49 have similar recitations and were rejected on the same grounds.

Each of rejected independent Claims 1, 24, 42, 46 and 49 has been carefully reviewed and amended to address the Examiner's concerns noted in the Action. Specifically for example, Claim 1 has been amended to recite "A method for generating a table to compute the function $\log(e^{x_1}+e^{x_2})$ or $\ln(e^{x_1}+e^{x_2})$ for a first argument value x_1 and a second argument value x_2 , the *method for generating a table* comprising". Claims 24, 46 and 49 have been similarly amended. Independent Claim 42 has also been carefully reviewed and amended herein to remove any ambiguity as to what the claimed turbo decoder comprises.

Claims 38, 43 and 44 have been amended solely to correct formal matters.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph rejection are respectfully requested.

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Applicants' undersigned representative was unable to arrange an interview with the Examiner to discuss the proposed claim amendments. If the Examiner believes that issues remain after consideration of the proposed amendments, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative to discuss any outstanding issues.

It is respectfully submitted that in regard to the above amendment and accompanying remarks, that the application is in condition for allowance. Again, should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicants' undersigned attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

2/4/04
Date

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